(d) the effective measures being taken by Government to ensure uninterrupted availability of these facilities at reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) As per available information, there is no textile mill in public and co-operative sector in the State of Meghalaya as on 31.1.2000.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Change in policy for captive power producers

*289. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any changes in its policy towards captive power producers;

(b) if so, the details of the changes made therein; and

(c) how it is going to affect the overall availability of power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Government of India, through a circular letter dated October 9,1995, has advised the State Governments/State Electricity Boards to encourage setting up of captive generation plants and to create an institutional mechanism which allows captive power units an easy entry into the power sector by quickly clearing captive power applications, giving the developers a rational tariff for purchase of surplus power by the grid and third party access for direct sale of power to other industrial units.

Proposal to establish an integrated MoD

290. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish an integrated Ministry of Defence, incorporating the necessary components of the Defence services within it;

(b) if so, what is the present position of the process; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not progressing it, contrary to statements made by the Minister earlier, as reported in the media?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Certain proposals including the recommendations of the Kargil Review

Committee which *inter alia* have a bearing on the re-organisation of the Ministry of Defence have been considered. Government have since decided to have the entire gamut of National Security Management including these proposals/ recommendations, reviewed by an appropriate body to be appointed for this purpose.

Safeguarding Railway Properties from extremists in Assam

*291. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway tracks were blown off in Karbi Anglong district of Assam in mid-January, 2000 on the eve of P.M.'s visit to Assam;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents in North-East Frontier Railways during the last two years; and

(c) the measures taken to safeguard Railway properties from the hands of extremists and also save human lives?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) On January 19, 2000, there was a bomb explosion between Bokajan and Chungajan railway stations causing derailment of a goods train.

(b) Details of such incidents during the years 1998 and 1999 are given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(c) Vigilance on railway tracks has been intensified. Railway gangmen, Home Guards and GRP personnel have been deployed for joint track patrolling. State Police and Army Guards have been mounted on all the important railway bridges in the State. State Police and Railway Protection Force personnel as well as Home Guards have been deployed in all passenger/goods trains. Security arrangements are reviewed from time to time.

STATEMENT

Details of incidents in North East Frontier Railways during the years 1998 and 1999

1998

1. On railway track between Sarupeta and Barpeta railway station under Rangia, GRPS;